

## Public Information

The Planning Accreditation Board requires this information be posted for the Master of Regional Planning program at UMass Amherst.

### Student Achievement

In accordance with our 2018 MRP strategic plan (see separate weblink), we have developed key goals and indicators of academic achievement. While the Graduate School at UMass sets 2.75 GPA as the minimum threshold for admission, the MRP Program has set as a long-term target of at least 50% of students at or above 3.50 GPA during their program, and near 100% admitted above 3.00 GPA. We also assess academic achievement by means of total number of student poster and paper competition submissions, college or university academic awards, fellowships/assistantships, etc. MRP student Jenna Davis received the APA's Holzheimer Memorial Student Scholarship Award for Economic Planning for 2019. MRP Keith Benoit has served as a student representative to the MA APA leadership; he was also part of an interdisciplinary team that received an honor award from the 2019 Ed Bacon Design Competition. Two MRP/MS Geography dual degree students, Mary Richards and Jessica Schottanes, are finalists for fellowships to pursue research on Metro Boston commuting modes and National Park planning respectively. MRPs have been selected to participate in poster sessions and lightning talks through the UMass School of Earth and Sustainability. We instituted competitive mini-grants for award competition applications or academic/professional conference travel. As a result, more students have participated in international field studios, the 2019 Fabos Greenway Symposium, and other regional/national/international planning conferences. The number of alumni seeking to take the AICP exam in 2-3 years (rather than waiting longer or not taking them at all) is higher than in the previous 2014-2018 review period. We have fostered more connections with alumni and area professionals as a priority following re-accreditation. Over the past 2019-2020 academic year, MRP students volunteered and participated in the SNEAPA 2019 Conference in Springfield, MA; Citizen Planner Training Collaborative 2019 Meeting in Worcester, MA; and 2019 MRP Alumni Panel mentoring workshop in the department (as well as the similar upcoming 2020 events). MRPs are more involved in LA urban design studio projects in cooperation with the UMass Design Center in Springfield (see Ed Bacon competition), which received BSLA Merit Awards; recent alumni have been leading the Emerging Professionals Group for the MA APA Chapter. Our students participated in the 4 + 2 + APA Conference (Harvard/MIT/Tufts/UMass Amherst + 2 candidate programs + the MA Chapter of the APA) held at UMass in October 2019. MRP students have assisted with organizing such events through the Planning Student Organization, which moreover conducts fundraising for competition entries and conference expenses.

### 2019-2020 Tuition and Fees

In State Residents, per full-time academic year	\$16,973
In Region Residents, per full-time academic year	\$29,271
Out of State Residents, per full-time academic year	\$34,587

### Student Retention Rate

Percentage of students who began studies in fall 2018 and continued into fall 2019	93%
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### Student Graduation Rate

Percentage of students graduating within 4 years, entering class of 2015	87.5%
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### Number of Degrees Awarded

Number of degrees awarded for 2018-2019 Academic Year	14
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**AICP Certification**

Percentage of master's graduates taking the AICP exam within 5 years who pass, graduating class of 2014	66%
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**Employment**

Percentage of full-time graduates obtaining professional planning, planning-related, or other positions within 12 months of graduation, graduating class of 2018	85%
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